

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 PA-02 SS-15 SSO-00 INR-07
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TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 264662

INFORM CONSULS AS APPROPRIATE

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINR, JM, US

SUBJECT: PENTHOUSE MAGAZINE ARTICLE ON U.S. INVOLVEMENT
IN JAMAICA

1. FOLLOWING Q'S AND A'S PREPARED FOR NOON PRESS BRIEFING
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4 WHICH EMBASSY MAY USE IF ASKED:

Q: IS IT TRUE THAT BEGINNING IN 1975 SECRETARY KISSINGER
OR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE SOUGHT THE OVERTHROW OF THE
JAMAICAN GOVERNMENT?

A: THIS IS AN OLD CHARGE THAT WE HAVE DENIED REPEATEDLY.
SPECIFICALLY, I REFER YOU TO THE TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
ON JUNE 15, 1976 BY THEN DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS WILLIAM H. LUERS. SPEAKING TO
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NUMEROUS ALLEGATIONS THAT HAD SURFACED OVER A NUMBER OF
MONTHS, HE CATEGORICALLY DENIED THAT THE USG WAS DOING
ANYTHING TO UNDERMINE OR DESTABILIZE LEGITIMATE AUTHORITIES
OR GOVERNMENTS OF THE CARIBBEAN.

Q: DID FORMER SECRETARY KISSINGER MEET WITH JAMAICAN
PRIME MINISTER MANLEY IN DECEMBER 1975 AND PRESSURE

MANLEY TO BE LESS FRIENDLY TO CASTRO?

A: DURING A VACATION IN DECEMBER 1975, FORMER SECRETARY KISSINGER VISITED JAMAICA. HE MET WITH PRIME MINISTER MANLEY DURING THAT VISIT. I DO NOT KNOW WHAT THEY DISCUSSED, BUT IT IS QUITE LIKELY THAT JAMAICA'S RELATIONS WITH CUBA WAS ONE OF A NUMBER OF TOPICS.

Q: WAS THERE A SUDDEN INCREASE IN EMBASSY STAFF PRIOR TO THE SECRETARY'S VISIT IN DECEMBER 1975?

A: ALTHOUGH THE ARTICLE DOES NOT SPECIFY WHEN THIS INCREASE WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE, THE STAFFING IN THE EMBASSY DID NOT VARY BY MORE THAN ONE OR TWO PERSONS THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD JUNE 1975 TO JUNE 1976.

Q: WAS A JAMAICAN REQUEST FOR A DOLLARS 2.5 MILLION A.I.D. LOAN REJECTED AROUND THE TIME OF THE SECRETARY'S VISIT?

A: JAMAICA WAS GRANTED A DOLLARS 9.1 MILLION LOAN IN FISCAL YEAR 1974 FOR RURAL EDUCATION. I PRESUME THE ARTICLE IS REFERRING TO AN ADDITIONAL DOLLARS 2 MILLION FOR THAT PROJECT WHICH THE JAMAICANS HAD REQUESTED EARLIER BUT FOR WHICH THERE WERE NO FUNDS IN THE A.I.D. BUDGET. THE LOAN WAS SUBSEQUENTLY INCREASED IN FY-1977
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BY DOLLARS 2.1 MILLION.

2. NO QUESTIONS ASKED AT BRIEFING.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Sent Date: 04-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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